

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR GENERATING A BUSINESS ACTIVITY-RELATED MODEL-BASED COMPUTER SYSTEM OUTPUT

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A computer system and method that simplify the generation of business activity-related model-based output (e.g., spreadsheet output, output to software applications and output to visual displays). The method includes providing a computer system with a computer (e.g., a server computer), a user interface, a database (e.g., a relational database), an authoring editor module, an interview manager module, a rules generator module, a data manager module and an output generator module. Next, a set of model questions related to a business activity is created and stored in the database using the authoring editor module. An interactive interview is then presented to a user (via the user interface) using the interview manager module. The interactive interview includes a series of context-sensitive questions dynamically generated from the set of model questions by the interview manager module during the presentation of the interactive interview. During the interactive interview the data manager module can be used to import data from and export data to an external database or software application so the user may view and edit that data. Next, the rules generator module converts the stored answers into a set of rules that model the business activity and stores the set of rules in the database. A business activity-related model-based output from the computer system is subsequently generated based on the stored set of rules. Also provided is a computer system for generating business activity-related model-based output. The computer system includes a computer and a database. The computer includes a user interface, an authoring editor module, an interview manager module, a rules generator module, a data manager module and an output generator module configured to implement the aforementioned method.